

מקראות לחג

Israel's leading electronic daily
http://www.jpost.co.il
THE JERUSALEM POST INTERNET EDITION
is waiting for you!

THE JERUSALEM POST

Make international connections
From Israel, just dial:
177-100-2727
AT&T

VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19457 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1996 • TEVET 7, 5757 • 7 SHABAN, 1417 NIS 4.50 (Eilat NIS 3.60)

WORLD OF SPORT
Cowboys Clinch NFC East
It's all in the WORLD OF SPORT TODAY

Ayalon: I advised PM to open tunnel
SARAH HONIG and LIAT COLLINS



A Palestinian policeman and an IDF soldier shake hands during a joint patrol of Kalkilya yesterday. Israel and the Palestinian Authority resumed joint military patrols there yesterday. Kalkilya is the fourth city where patrols were resumed since being halted after September's bloody clashes in the territories. The IDF said Kalkilya still remains a closed military area and Israelis are barred from entering the town. (Text: Arich O'Sullivan, Photo: AP)

Clinton's warning shot

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton fired a warning shot across Israel's bow last night by attacking the expansion of settlements, and offering his stark assessment that the Middle East is either moving forward toward peace or backward toward greater turmoil.

ANALYSIS
DAVID MAKOVSKY

peril. Otherwise, the warnings may only get louder and more frequent, especially since Clinton need not worry about electoral considerations anymore.

ing an undifferentiated approach, without a territorial blueprint for the future.

GENERAL Security Service chief Ami Ayalon yesterday confirmed that he had urged Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to open the Western Wall Tunnel.

Channel 1: Two get 25 years for Tzur slayings
CHANNEL 1 reported last night that two members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine had been tried and sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment by a Palestinian security court for the shooting of Etta and Ephraim Tzur last week near Beit El. Ramallah police could not confirm the report.

Monitoring panel: Lebanon responsible for Katyusha attack

THE five-nation Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee last night said it holds the Lebanese government responsible for Friday's Katyusha rocket attack on western Galilee - the first Katyusha attack since the cease-fire that ended the cross-border fighting in April.

DAVID RUDGE

argument.

Ben-Yair favors releasing Klingberg

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Michael Ben-Yair reportedly favors letting convicted spy Marcus Klingberg out of jail, but the State Attorney's Office still opposes the idea, it was revealed yesterday.

that he has no intention of harming the state if released, it worried that he would unintentionally slip information that could do great damage.

EVELYN GORDON

to Klingberg's release, because as far as it knows, the GSS's objections still stand.

Above All...
We've Mastered the Art Of Private Banking

"The Jewel of the Israeli Banking Industry,"
Salomon Brothers, 28.2.96
"First International is the best regarded of the major Israeli banks..."
Union Bank of Switzerland, global research report, 15.12.95
First International is ranked No. 1 among the five leading banks in Israel
by Thomson Bank Watch, 3.1.96

It was not easy to achieve such high regard from such prestigious international institutions. It took years of hard work and conducting business by a clearly defined business philosophy that focuses on safety. Mainly the protection of our clients assets and shareholders investments.

Our state of the art practices and the performance of our professional staff are clearly reflected in customer satisfaction and in our balance sheet. Year after year.

FIBI's International Private Banking offers non-Israeli residents, new immigrants and Israelis living abroad custom tailored products and services that meet their individual financial needs based on confidentiality and security.

For further information, contact our International Private Banking Department.
Tel Aviv, 22 Allenby St.
Tel: (972)-3-5100530
Fax: (972)-3-5100827
or our subsidiaries:
FIBI Bank (UK), 24 Creechurch Lane, London EC3A 5EH. Tel: (44)-171-2835333.
FIBI Bank (Switzerland), 45 Bleicherweg, Zurich 8027. Tel: (41)-1-2016969
or at the offices of Republic National Bank of New York.

Huke Schwartz, sculptor, Awarded international prizes. Metal sculpture.

YOUR STATE OF THE ART BANK
THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL BANK OF ISRAEL

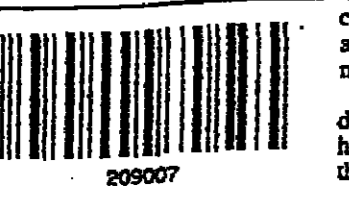
B.T.C. Travel & Tours
3 Ben Sara St. Jerusalem
02-6233990

REGULAR AND PRIVATE TOURS TO JORDAN

- 1, 2, 3 and 4 Day Organized Tours
- Individuals • Friends • Families
- Small Groups • Large Groups
- Excellent Itineraries
- Guaranteed Departures

Other Tours Available:
EGYPT 2 to 10 day tours
SINAI 1 to 4 day tours
ISRAEL Daily sightseeing tours

Jerusalem Post Subscription Sales and Service 177-922-2278



Hebron talks resume

DAVID MAKOVSKY AND LIAT COLLINS

IN an indication of the easing of tension, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators met yesterday, for the first time in 10 days, to discuss a Hebron pullback.

Negotiators Yitzhak Molcho and Saeb Erekat met in Jerusalem amid US efforts to bring the two sides together and comments by President Bill Clinton that there are only slight differences between the two sides.

Earlier in the day, Netanyahu phoned Jordan's King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and updated them on his conversation with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

In a letter that Jordanian Information Minister Marwan Muasher delivered to Netanyahu last week, Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti deplored settlement expansion and said it impacted negatively on Jordan's security.

Foreign Minister David Levy will visit Amman on Thursday, making him the first Israeli official to visit there since the Western Wall Tunnel exit was opened in September.

Meanwhile, the closure of Ramallah is to be lifted today, according to Israel Radio.



Masked members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine burn an Israeli flag during a demonstration in Nablus yesterday to mark the PFLP's 29th anniversary. (Reuters)

Arafat loosening reins on Hamas

HAMAS is coming in from the cold almost a year after being forced to lower its profile following last winter's four suicide bombings, but it represents more of a loosening of the reins by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat than a change of direction by Hamas.

In an interview with the leading Palestinian daily *Al Quds* on Sunday, Hamas spokesman Dr. Mahmoud Zahar said that he believed that "circumstances are not the same now as during the intifada" and that all Hamas activities "should have a clear address and all its activities should be open."

"The whole land of Palestine is a Moslem Waqf but as a first step Hamas would not stand in the way of establishing a state in Gaza, the West Bank and east Jerusalem," he said.

Other Hamas leaders responded that this in no way meant that the

ANALYSIS
JON IMMANUEL

Islamic Movement was making a first step towards softening its opposition to the Oslo accords. "We are fully opposed," said Sayed Abu Musannah, a former editor of the banned Hamas newspaper *Watan*.

While giving Hamas the opportunity to show its face again, Arafat has given no sign yet he will allow *Watan* to reopen. He closed it more than a year ago for its strong attacks on the PA jailing of Hamas supporters and the PA's encouragement of what Hamas called social immorality.

None of this has changed, but Arafat has earned greater respectability in Gaza over the past six months of Likud rule in Israel. This has given him the power to be both tougher and more lenient to his

opponents, according to his needs.

As a sign of its new limited acceptability, Hamas will open a political office in Gaza City soon which will name a local leadership and coordinate with the Hamas leadership abroad, Zahar said.

And the Beit Lahia Municipality, under the PA's control, has decided in principle to name a street after master bomber Yihya Ayyash. "The Engineer" who was killed on that street and whose death there prompted the four suicide bus bombings against Israel a month later.

Arafat landed Ayyash, who was responsible for more than 50 Israeli deaths before he died. But in a Gaza military court, last weekend, two members of Izzadin Kassam, the underground Hamas armed wing headed by Ayyash, were sentenced to death for killing a Gazan civilian and a security guard while attempting to seal their weapons.

In the past nine months Hamas has shown itself to be less violent than its junior opposition partner. Yesterday Ramallah police said they arrested more than 10 supporters of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in connection with last week's drive-by shooting near Beit El which killed Eita and Ephraim Tsur.

In Nablus, police allowed several hundred PFLP and some Hamas supporters to celebrate the killings at an-Najah University and call for a continuation of armed struggle.

At this moment it is not clear which of the two horses, crackdown or political leniency, Arafat is driving harder. He appears to be exploiting growing anti-Israel sentiments to shore up his support at home while working within the letter of the Oslo agreement for Israeli consumption.

Labor leaders: PM caused confidence crisis

LIAT COLLINS and MICHAL YUDELMAN

A POLITICAL furor erupted over the credibility gap between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the security apparatus, which culminated Sunday night with Netanyahu's statement that the security apparatus heads urged him to open the Western Wall Tunnel.

Labor leaders accused the prime minister of causing the confidence crisis, noting that the heads of the General Security Service, military intelligence and police all warned of the confrontation which the tunnel opening would cause.

During their weekly meeting, Labor MKs nearly all accused Netanyahu of not speaking the truth when he claimed that the security forces, or at least some of them, had favored the tunnel opening.

MK Efraim Sneh (Labor) said the confidence crisis between the prime minister and the heads of the security apparatus is unprecedented. Sneh accused Netanyahu of "shifting the blame for the tunnel opening onto the security apparatus heads, who, as everyone knows, had warned him of the repercussions of opening the tunnel."

Labor leader Shimon Peres said, "It is unthinkable that the security apparatus heads would have urged Netanyahu to open the tunnel, because this is a political suggestion which has nothing to do with the security requirements. Even if they had, what kind of prime minister accepts such a recommendation?"

MK Haggai Merom (Labor) said the prime minister's behavior towards GSS head Ami Ayalon showed that he wants to force him to resign by "forcing him up against a wall and damaging his credibility." Merom said Netanyahu had done the same with attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair.

MK Ehud Barak (Labor), former chief of staff and military intelligence head, said he did not believe the security apparatus heads could have urged Netanyahu to open the tunnel, since the chief of staff, military intelligence head and military district commander and others did not take part in the meeting in question.

Barak added that the split Netanyahu created between himself and the security apparatus is dangerous to the state's security.

MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) yesterday said he watched with shock as Netanyahu made his statement on television Sunday night "because it was clear that he was not speaking the truth." Cohen, who is chairman of the Knesset Control Committee, said the committee heard the testimony of all the security apparatus heads involved, "and they testified in contradiction to what Netanyahu said."

At the request of Labor MKs Ra'anan Cohen and Moshe Shahal, Ran Cohen said the committee will hold another debate, to which he will invite Netanyahu to make his position clear.

NEWSLINE with YEHUDA BEN-MEIR

What does the conflict of versions between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and GSS head Ami Ayalon mean?

The deep mistrust that seems to exist between the highest political level and the leaders of the security establishment represents a grave crisis in civil-military relations. Trust is the basic condition, the sine qua non for healthy civil-military relations. When you don't have that, you may have a crisis.

Is this unprecedented?

I wouldn't see it as unprecedented. In 1953, there was the Lavon affair in which there was a total mistrust between defense minister [Pinhas] Lavon and chief of general staff [Moshe] Dayan and a crisis of confidence between Lavon and prime minister Moshe Sharett. This was the most serious crisis of civil-military relations in Israel and resulted in the resignation of Lavon and subsequent return of David Ben-Gurion to power.

How serious is this crisis?

I don't think the security establishment, either the GSS or the military, demand that the prime minister accept everything they recommend. The civilian control of decision making is not the question. In democracies the military accepts the iron principle of civilian control. But it demands that the civilian leadership gives proper weight to its considerations. That is the difference between democracies and autocracies.

How does one get out of this situation?

In democracies, you don't have a secret police to undermine and intimidate the military. There is no question that Netanyahu can overrule. But he has to abide by the cardinal rule that each coin has two sides. One side is that the military leadership is completely subservient to the civilian leadership, and in Israel no one has ever questioned this. But Churchill said there also had to be respect for the military and you must have confidence in it. The fact that the prime minister and his whole office radiate this complete disdain for the military echelon is totally destructive.

You don't have to accept their advice, but if they feel you are not listening to them seriously and merely going through the procedures, then it is destructive to the civil-military relationship.

There are those who say the suspicion among the prime minister and his advisers for the security establishment stems from the belief the upper echelon was appointed by the Labor government and held contrary opinions.

That is rubbish. Both Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir inherited an army appointed during Labor governments, and they had total respect for the officers and worked with them for years. Shamir, who held a much more extreme ideology than Begin, had tremendous respect for and good rapport with the military leadership. Shamir would absorb everything the military wrote - and these were Labor people.

They realized that a healthy transition of power meant a healthy democracy. The government coming in must respect all the people who were there. They are not political appointees who were promoted three months before the elections.

Ben-Meir is a former deputy foreign minister and author of *Civil-Military Relations in Israel*.
Arieh O'Sullivan

United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.
התנועה המאוחדת לישראל בקנדה אי.איי.סי.

its Officers and Staff extend sincere condolences to Felix Meloul on the passing of his beloved Mother

AZIZA MELOUL ז"ל

Harvey Wolfe President
Max Blankstein Chairman, IRC

Stevver Air Executive Vice President
Amnon Shinar Director General

ברוך דיין האמת
In deep sorrow we announce the passing in Jerusalem of our dearly beloved

SIMON HAIN ז"ל

Wife: Cecelia Hain
Brother: Phillip Hain
Children: Dr. James Hain and Family
Rabbi Uri Hain and Family
Dr. Daniel Hain and Family
Rabbi Kenneth Hain and Family

Shiva is being observed until Sunday morning at 8 Shai Agnon, Jerusalem.

We join in the grief of Mr. Alan Sacks and his family on the passing of his father

LOUIS SACKS ז"ל

The Clore Foundation
Vivien Clore Duffield, Chairman
The Trustees and Executive Director

We mourn the loss of

HARRY KEMELMAN

of Marblehead, Massachusetts U.S.A.

The family in Israel and the United States

My cherished and most beloved husband

BENJAMIN SKLAR

has passed away

Deeply and profoundly mourned by: Naomi daughter: Stacey Ross brothers: Reuben and Albert - and sister Nina

Funeral today December 17, 1996, at 1:30 p.m., Shikun Vatikim, Netanya. Bus will leave Nitzza 16 at 1:00 p.m.

Haifa strikers allegedly beaten by security guards
DAVID RUDGE

THREE workers at the strike-bound Haifa Chemicals factory were rushed to the hospital last night after allegedly being beaten by security guards brought in by management.

Hundreds of other striking workers then converged on the plant in an angry mood, and demanded that police arrest those responsible for the beatings, or they would do so for them.

Haifa Histadrut branch chairman Baruch Zaltz said the situation was "ugly" and the security guards had apparently attacked a group of 12 workers sitting in a protest tent near the factory gates for "no reason."

He said the workers were beaten with clubs, and were taken by ambulance to Rambam Hospital.

Correction

The Farewell Cracow concert will take place at Yad Vashem on January 2, and not as stated in yesterday's paper.

TOUR THE HOLYLAND
CANAANITES • ISRAELITES • CHRISTIANITY • ROMANS
GREEKS • CRUSADERS • FIRST AND SECOND TEMPLES

Meet them all touring from event to event in this new GUIDEBOOK by Israel tour guide, BEKLY RATZER, and watch history come alive.

16 FULL COLOR PAGES + 12 HISTORICAL MAPS

Softcover NIS 48.00
228 pp. (incl. shipping) Check * 54.00

gefena * יגפנ

P.O.B. 36004 Jerusalem 91360
Tel: 02-538-0247 Fax: 02-538-8423

Listen to Arutz 7, 711 1143 AM 105 FM

Controlling your Anger... and Finding Joy!

a five-part free lecture series given by Rabbi Zelig Pliskin and Dr. Yehuda Lave, Psychologist/Author

Five consecutive Wednesdays - 8-10 p.m., from Dec. 18, 1996 till Jan. 15, 1997, at the Hildesheimer Shul, off Emeq Refaim (down from the Post Office), German Colony, Jerusalem.

Admission free - For information call Dr. Lave 02-654-0135, ext. 7173.

NEOT HAKIKAR
GEOGRAPHICAL TOURS

PETRA 2 DAYS WITH FLIGHTS FROM TEL AVIV & BACK!! FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR (25/12/96 & 01/01/97)

Special price

\$ 269 for 3 star hotel in Petra
\$ 299 for 5 star hotel in Petra

★ NEW ★
We offer services for individual tourists to Jordan!!

★ SINAI ★
2 day Safari \$ 125
1 day to Santa Catherine \$ 55

For more information:
03-5205874

BE A WINNER!

Fill out this entry form today, return it to The Jerusalem Post and participate in our weekly raffle for valuable gift certificates from Kitan, Golf and Levi's stores! Every Friday in The Post, we'll announce three new prize winners: 1st Prize: NIS 700 value, 2nd Prize NIS 200 value, 3rd Prize NIS 100 value.

The more you read The Post...the better your chances are to Be A Winner!

THE JERUSALEM POST

Only original entry forms accepted, no photocopies, fax copies or separate sheets of paper. Campaign valid through February 21, 1997. Entry form will not be held over from previous week draws. Jerusalem Post employees, their families and distribution agents are exempt from participating.



מקראים

Korean ex-president's death sentence commuted

BRIAN WILLIAMS
SEOUL

A SOUTH Korean appeals court yesterday commuted the death sentence on ex-president Chun Doo Hwan, mastermind of the Kwangju massacre, to life imprisonment.

The court also cut the jail term of another ex-president, reduced sentences on a clutch of generals tied to the events and let five business tycoons, including the head of the giant Daewoo group, walk free from bribery charges.

In decisions that outraged victims of the Kwangju atrocity and softened the impact of an anti-corruption drive, the Seoul High Court granted leniency to nearly all leading actors in the country's "trial of the century."

But the court rejected defense arguments that there could be a "legal" coup and called for an end to revenge in South Korean politics.

The most dramatic decision was to commute Chun's death sentence to life imprisonment on charges that included ordering an attack on democracy activists in the southern town of Kwangju in 1980. Several hundred died when a May 18 insurrection was put down by crack paratroopers.

The verdicts, laced with sayings from the Chinese classics and even Latin, set off gasps of disbelief and anger among 250 spectators, including families of some Kwangju victims.

Outside the court, the mother of one victim, Lee Keum-soon, wept as she denounced the decision as a "prepared script."

"My son was handicapped during the Kwangju massacre. The

people of Kwangju are still living with anger from that incident," she told reporters.

The three-judge panel cut to 17 years from 22-1/2 years the jail term for Chun's successor, Roh Tae-woo. It also reduced the jail terms of 12 former generals, kept one unchanged and upheld the acquittal of a 14th general.

Chun, president from 1980 to 1988 and Roh, president from 1988 to 1993, were convicted of mutiny and treason over a 1979 coup that launched Chun's political career and led to the Kwangju atrocity. Separately, they were found guilty of amassing hundreds of millions of dollars in slush funds.

Dressed in pale blue prison uniforms — Chun prisoner 3124 and Roh prisoner 1042 — the two stood side-by-side for the verdicts.

Chief Judge Kwon Sung, explaining that a reason for Chun's sentence being commuted was that he peacefully transferred the presidency to Roh, added:

"Losing political power doesn't necessarily mean death.

"We must get away from that kind of political culture and establish the principle that death does not follow a transfer of power. This is as important as punishing the coup," he said.

The judge said Roh's sentence was reduced because he was a "follower," not a "mastermind" like Chun.

Both men can make a final appeal to the Supreme Court and President Kim Young-sam can also grant full pardons. (Reuters)

Unions, courts deliver fresh blows to Milosevic

PETER MILLERSHIP
BELGRADE

TRADE union support for protests against Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic grew yesterday, as a court handed the opposition a victory in a second town where elections were disputed.

Students, union members, and supporters of the opposition Zajedno (Together) coalition protested for the 29th straight day in Belgrade in a face-off with the government over its refusal to reinstate annulled local election results.

Zoran Djindjic, a prominent opposition leader, vowed at the Belgrade rally to organize a nationwide protest in the new year to pile the pressure on Milosevic.

"One thousand people from each of 30 towns in Serbia will walk to join us here in Belgrade in the new year, we will be world champions in protest marathons," he told the crowd, which fell short of the record 250,000 people

over the weekend.

The rallies have a carnival atmosphere despite expressing rock-solid opposition to Milosevic. Security forces have adopted a low profile, although the memory of 1991, when Milosevic used tanks to crush street protests, lingers.

In a second breakthrough for Zajedno, a court in the town of Smederevska Palanka ordered the local election commission to respect an annulled local election and give the municipal council to Zajedno. There was a similar order in Nis on Sunday.

There was more bad news for Milosevic when the tradi-

tionally pro-government Alliance of Independent Trade Unions of Yugoslavia, the nation's biggest and most influential union group, backed a smaller union's protests.

The alliance said it backed last week's decision by Nezavisnost to join anti-Milosevic protests which made it the first union to participate in the rallies. Workers have cited grievances over pay and workers' conditions and rights.

Nezavisnost workers plan to demonstrate today outside the Serbian parliament which is due to discuss several draft laws on labor and employment that workers believe will harm their interests.

The crisis has shaken Milosevic and given the US a fresh opportunity to fire a broadside pressing him for democratic reform in return for renewed access to capital on international finance markets. (Reuters)



A Rwandan refugee child with his younger sibling in tow walks toward Rwanda from the Benaco refugee camp in Tanzania yesterday. Red Cross officials tied them together so they would not lose each other on the 17 km. walk to the border. Tanzanian police and soldiers are forcibly repatriating more than a half million Rwandans. (AP)

Chechen mission tries to free Russian soldiers

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Chechnya's separatist leaders, anxious to keep the region's delicate peace process on track, yesterday took steps to force a radical field commander to release 21 Russian soldiers he was holding captive.

The Interfax news agency said Salman Raduyev, whose men seized the troops on Saturday, had dropped all conditions for their release at a meeting with negotiators from the Dagestani region neighboring Chechnya.

It quoted an unnamed Dagestani representative as saying that Raduyev had agreed to free all the

hostages today after a tough warning from separatist premier Aslan Maskhadov.

In a contradictory report, Itar-Tass news agency quoted Dagestani security minister Magomed Talboev as saying that Raduyev agreed to release just 10 of the Russian servicemen today, and only if Moscow brought formal apologies to him.

Up to 60 Raduyev's men seized the servicemen on Saturday, when they tried to prevent the rebels from entering Dagestan. Raduyev thinks the Russians had no right to stop his men.

Neither of the agencies' reports could be independently confirmed. Russian officials were not immediately available for comment.

Chechnya's rebel leaders, anxious to ensure that the troops leave before presidential and parliamentary elections scheduled for January 27, have denounced hostage-taking incidents like Raduyev's in the past and have moved to resolve them quickly.

Three top Russian officials in the region overseeing Chechen policy sent Chechnya's president a memorandum on Sunday warning

that unless the Russians are released, Moscow could halt the withdrawal of its forces.

But yesterday, Russian commander Vladimir Sukhoruchenko said the incident should not be blown out of proportion.

He noted that Raduyev, a radical who led a hostage-taking raid into Dagestan last January, has no link with the Chechen separatists' political and military leadership.

"I hope that we all have enough sober sense not to let this incident harm the peace process," Interfax quoted him, as saying.

Corsican separatist leader gives himself up

AJACCIO, Corsica (Reuters) - Corsica's best-known hardline separatist leader, Francois Santoni, gave himself up on the French Mediterranean island hours after police arrested his woman friend yesterday.

Santoni, who had been living rough for months in the dense brushland that covers much of the island, surrendered in the northern town of Bastia, they said.

Santoni is head of the Cuncolta Naziunalista party, the legal wing of the outlawed Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC)-Historical Wing which police hold responsible for dozens of bomb attacks against public buildings on Corsica in the past few months.

Police were seeking him to serve a sentence already passed on arms charges.

Police earlier arrested his companion, Marie-Helene Mattei, a lawyer specializing in defending separatists who is also Cuncolta's secretary-general. Interior Ministry sources said a pump shotgun and

a bulletproof vest were found in her home.

A wave of separatist bomb attacks, virtually always carried out at night against empty premises have badly hit Corsica's tourist trade.

Mattei was detained by police in connection with a bomb attack on Thursday against a luxury golf club which investigators believe was linked to an extortion attempt by separatists.

The interior ministry said eight suspects were being held in connection with Thursday's attack on the Sperone golf course which flattened the golf course keeper's house but caused no injuries.

Investigators said Mattei's arrest was a sign of the government's determination to restore order on Corsica after President Jacques Chirac last week said bombers would be tracked down relentlessly.

The FLNC has threatened to step up attacks on the French mainland as part of its drive for more autonomy from Paris.

Last East German premier found guilty of perjury

DRESDEN (Reuters) - A German court convicted former East German premier Hans Modrow of perjury yesterday, but limited the sentence on the country's last communist leader to a year's probation.

The Dresden state court found Modrow, 68, a reformer who led communist East Germany from November 1989 to March 1990, guilty of lying under oath to a state parliamentary committee probing

election fraud in East Germany.

"This was not a political trial," said Judge Hans-Peter Kotyrb. "It was solely based on whether Modrow committed perjury before the state parliament."

Modrow denied he lied under oath about vote rigging that occurred in October 1989.

His sentence included punishment for a 1995 conviction by the same court for inciting election fraud.

Expert testifies on O.J.'s blood-soaked socks

SANTA MONICA, California (AP) - A scientist testified yesterday that blood appeared to have soaked through a sock found in O.J. Simpson's bedroom, suggesting the blood was planted to frame Simpson for murder.

Herbert MacDonell repeated his testimony from the criminal trial, but was not allowed to expand on it because of an attorney agreement barring new disclosures by first-trial experts.

Simpson was acquitted of criminal charges a year ago in the knife slayings of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman on June 12, 1994.

But relatives of the victims are suing the former American football star for wrongful death in civil

court. The plaintiffs are seeking to convince a jury of Simpson's responsibility for the murders — something prosecutors failed to do. But a criminal trial requires a higher standard of evidence for a conviction.

Attorneys successfully defended Simpson in the criminal trial in part by suggesting the former American football star could have been framed through a conspiracy by racist police. Simpson is black and the victims were white.

Much of the prosecution's evidence involved blood found at the scene, on Simpson's automobile and at his house.

MacDonell, a bloodstain analyst, found microscopic particles of what appeared to be blood that

had soaked from the outside of the dark sock to the inside, opposite surface. He said this would have been impossible if a foot were in the sock.

"Is that consistent with somebody compressing and getting blood on (a side) of the sock and pushing it into the sock?" asked defense attorney Robert Baker.

"Yes, it is," MacDonell answered.

He also said the blood would have dried within five or 10 minutes, implying it wouldn't have soaked through after the socks were taken off.

In another criminal trial testimony rerun, MacDonell recounted his experiment in which he smeared his own blood on a glove

similar to those collected in the case and found the gloves did not shrink, as a glove expert testified they would.

The defense sought to ask MacDonell questions about interpretation of crime scene blood to bolster its contention the killings took longer to commit than the plaintiffs claim.

But the judge refused to allow that testimony, citing the pretrial agreement between attorneys to limit expert testimony to only what was presented at the criminal trial.

Police said they found the socks at the foot of Simpson's bed the day after the killings. Plaintiff witnesses have testified that blood found on the sock was similar to

Simpson's and that of his ex-wife. MacDonell was the first of several defense science experts being called to throw scientific weight behind the police frame-up theory and to sketch an alternate scenario for the killings.

Simpson himself may return to the stand this week, answering questions from his own lawyer before the jury is sent home for a two-week Christmas vacation.

Also possible this week is a ruling from an Orange County judge in a custody battle between Simpson and the parents of his slain ex-wife over Simpson's younger children, Sydney and Justin.

A court spokesman said yesterday no decision had been reached.

Gable Oscar, script sell for \$770,000

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - An unidentified bidder paid more than \$770,000 on Sunday for a pair of movie artifacts, including an Oscar statuette, once owned by Hollywood legend Clark Gable.

Officials with Christie's auction house said the winner bid \$550,000 for the gold-plated, 30-cm. Oscar that Gable won for his role in the 1934 film *It Happened One Night* and \$220,000 for his copy of the script for 1939's *Gone With the Wind*.

Including auction fees, which are paid by the buyer, the Oscar fetched \$607,500 and the script \$244,500.

Both articles were being sold by Gable's estate as part of a daylong auction of Hollywood memorabilia that raised more than \$1.8 million.

Ursula Hermacinski, the Christie's vice president who took the winning bids for both the Oscar and the script over the telephone, declined to identify the victorious bidder.

"I think the buyer is thrilled, pretty, pretty thrilled," she said.

The winning Oscar bid topped

the previous record price for an Oscar of \$510,000, set in 1993 at Sotheby's auction house for the statuette given to Vivien Leigh when she was named best actress for her role opposite Gable in *Gone With the Wind*.

Gable, who died in 1960 at the age of 59, won his only Oscar for his role as a wisecracking newspaper reporter in love with a runaway heiress, played by Claudette Colbert. *It Happened One Night* swept the Academy Awards, with Colbert, director Frank Capra and the film itself also being honored.

Among other items auctioned off were one of four famous Rosebud sleds used in the 1941 film *Citizen Kane*, sold for \$210,000; Audrey Meadows's 1954 Emmy Award for the television program *The Honeymooners* (\$26,000); Gable's leather-bound script of *The Misfits* (\$18,000); Gable's passport (\$10,000); Lana Turner's passport (\$2,400); and a swimsuit worn by Pamela Anderson Lee in the popular television program *Baywatch* (\$1,200).

SYRIA AND ISRAEL - From War to Peace-making

Moshe Ma'oz examines the history of relations between Israel and Syria throughout the Middle Eastern conflict, demonstrating its crucial importance for the strategic posture of both countries, for the fate of the Palestinian problem, and for the prospects of an overall Middle East peace settlement.

Published by Oxford University Press, 1995. Hardcover, 262 pp.

JP Price NIS 149 plus NIS 6 p & h in Israel

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000
Please send me Syria and Israel by Moshe Ma'oz. Enclosed is my check for NIS 155 payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:
 VISA ISRACARD DINERS AMEX

CC No. _____ Exp. _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Code _____
Tel. (day) _____ ID No. _____
Signature _____

EVERYTHING THAT MEETS THE EYE FROM A-Z

The Hebrew-English Visual Dictionary is an invaluable reference source containing thousands of carefully chosen illustrations and clearly identified terminology. Look up the word from a picture or find the picture from the word. Introductions and indices in Hebrew and English. Published by Carta, 1996. Hardcover, over 750 pp.

JP Price NIS 85, plus NIS 9 for mailing in Israel

ORDER BY PHONE OR FAX
02-6241282
Fax: 02-6241212
e-mail: orders@jpost.co.il

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

Please send me Visual Dictionary. Enclosed is my check for NIS 94 payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:
 VISA ISC DINERS AMEX

CC No. _____ Exp. _____
Name _____ Address _____
City _____ Code _____ ID No. _____
Tel. (day) _____ Signature _____

VISIT US ON <http://www.jpost.co.il>

Key Representative Rates
US DollarNIS 3.2810 +0.00%
SterlingNIS 5.4415 +0.11%
MarkNIS 2.1090 -0.80%

NEW STOCK MARKETS
New York market indexes
DJ IndustrialsLast Change
DJ Transport222.9 -0.52

Other stock market indexes
FTSE 1003983.8 +21.4
Hang Seng1932.9 +151.4

Israeli stocks in US
NYSE / AMEX / NASDAQ / OTC
Am Tel37.75 +0.25
Amstar4.825 -0.135

LIBOR RATES
3 months5.75
6 months5.75
9 months5.75
12 months5.75

US COMMODITIES
Crude Oil (COC)12.82
Crude Oil (COC)12.82

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)
Copper368.1 +0.8
Silver4.81 +0.04

NEW YORK COMMODITIES AND METALS
Crude Oil (COC)12.82
Crude Oil (COC)12.82

US COMMODITIES
Crude Oil (COC)12.82
Crude Oil (COC)12.82

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)
Copper368.1 +0.8
Silver4.81 +0.04

NEW YORK COMMODITIES AND METALS
Crude Oil (COC)12.82
Crude Oil (COC)12.82

US COMMODITIES
Crude Oil (COC)12.82
Crude Oil (COC)12.82

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading
Name Price %Chg
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

Two-sided trading
Name Price %Chg
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

Commercial Banks
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

Industrial
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

Mortgage Banks & Finance
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

Financial Institutions
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

Insurance
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

Trade & Services
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

Property, Building & Agriculture
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

Oil Exploration
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

PARALLEL LIST
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3
Bank Leumi 147.00 0.3

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES
NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

NEW YORK
Apple 120.00 +0.125
Microsoft 100.00 +0.125

TASE shares

end flat in selective trading

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

DAN GERSTENFELD

Two-Sided Index 205.79 +0.10%
Maof Index 213.77 +0.01%

SHARES closed almost unchanged yesterday in selective trading as investors cheered the low November consumer price index but expressed concerns about the political situation, dealers said.

The Two-Sided Index rose 0.05%, or 0.10 points, to 205.79 on all-share turnover of NIS 78 million, against NIS 70m. on Sunday. The Maof Index gained 0.01% to 213.77.

"Investors are sitting on the fence. The low CPI figure is very encouraging but the political situation is unclear," said Doron Tsar, head of research at Sahar Securities.

Elron Electronic Industries Ltd. rose 1.75% to 12,408. Salomon Brothers said yesterday that it was retaining its strong buy recommendation for the company, saying that Elron was trading at a 32% discount to a net asset value based on its analysis of future earnings in group companies.

The most active shares were Koor Industries, which gained 0.5% to 27,796 on volume of NIS 3.7m.; Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, which rose 0.5% to 151,439 on volume of NIS 3.6m.; and Supersol, which gained 0.75% to 7,968 on turnover of NIS 3.4m. (Reuters)

London shares end slightly higher

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Shares ended modestly higher yesterday, underpinned by a firmer Wall Street, but trading volumes were thin as investors remained wary about a possible near-term US self-off, dealers said.

The FTSE 100 ended 21.4 points higher at 3,993.8. FRANKFURT - German shares closed two percent higher on the back of dollar and bond market strength, but dealers said volumes were low and investors still nervous after recent plunges in global share markets.

The DAX-30 Index of leading German shares ended bourse trade 56.08 points higher at 2,855.79 as the dollar's rise boosted the numerous export-sensitive German stocks. In post-bourse trade the index rose 25.39 to 2,841.16.

Blue chips dragged lower by weak technology shares

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks closed lower yesterday as a sharp drop in technology shares cut short the market's rally propelled by news of Boeing Co. and McDonnell Douglas Corp.'s mega merger.

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow Jones industrial average ended down 36.52 points at 6,268.35 after a drop of more than 50 points activated the New York Stock Exchange's limits on program trading. In the broader market, declining issues beat advances 2-1 on active volume of 452 million shares on the NYSE.

PARIS - French stocks rebounded in line with other European stock and bond markets after EU leaders agreed on a stability pact for monetary union. The blue-chip CAC-40 Index finished up 19.16 points at 2,222.57.

ZURICH - Swiss shares ended firmer in quiet trade following an early jump and a subsequent sideways movement throughout the day. Volume was light. The all-share SPI added 17.04 points to 2,471.71.

TOKYO - Tokyo stocks ended lethargic trade slightly higher. Some investors hunted for bargains after sharp sell-offs last week. The key 225-issue Nikkei average was up 80.65 points to finish at 20,422.04.

HONG KONG - Hong Kong's blue chips ended with solid gains after gathering momentum during the afternoon following heavy losses last week. The Hang Seng Index ended 153.41 points higher at 12,937.48 after dropping 318.66 points last week.

SYDNEY - Australian shares finished at their highest for the session as relieved investors went on the hunt for bargains. The key share market barometer, the all ordinaries index, closed 19.8 points up at 2,336.3, its session high.

JOHANNESBURG - South African stocks were closed for a market holiday. On Friday the Industrial Index was off 132.2 points to 7,682.5, the all-share lost 124.5 to 6,482.5 and golds were down 21.6 to 1,511.6.

AYALON (Continued from Page 1) elaborate on the issue following yesterday's session of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, reaffirming his contention that he accepted full responsibility for the decision to open the tunnel.

"The responsibility is mine. I said what I said regarding certain assessments that I received from some of the security forces, and I have no intention of elaborating. Anyone who wants to believe [me] will, and anyone who doesn't, won't believe."

Likud MK and former deputy GSS head Gideon Ezra supported Netanyahu's statement that he had been encouraged to open the tunnel by the security establishment. And a highly-placed source close to the prime minister said last night that "if anything, Netanyahu was resorting to underestimation when he said he was encouraged to open the Western Wall Tunnel."

The source based his comment on transcripts of a lengthy meeting prior to the decision to open the tunnel. The source said he had gone over detailed transcripts of a very lengthy meeting in Netanyahu's office "a very short time before the opening of the tunnel. The deliberation was very prolonged, very detailed, and very thorough and exhaustive. Over and over, Netanyahu asked whether the tunnel should be opened at all."

"Again and again he was answered, unmistakably and unequivocally, in the affirmative, with words like 'sure,' or 'let's do it already,' and with a variety of arguments, including the boost the move would give local Arab merchants. There were no warnings about impending riots, only that some people are sure to make some noise."

The source said that Netanyahu, according to the transcripts, repeatedly asked: "Are you sure about the timing?" Again and again, the source said, Netanyahu was told that there was no particular problem about the timing, that no time is better than another, that there is never a perfect time in the Middle East.

Political observers last night said that Ayalon had to issue the statement he did, lest the transcripts be made public. Had that happened, he would have been placed in an untenable situation, which might have left him no option but to resign.

Opposition members of the Knesset committee attacked Netanyahu for his Sunday night statement that the security forces had encouraged him open up the tunnel. Uzi Baram (Labor) accused him of "telling the public things which hide one fact: the security threat to the existence of the State."

Several opposition MKs asked for a new examination into the decision-making process leading up to the tunnel opening and subsequent riots.

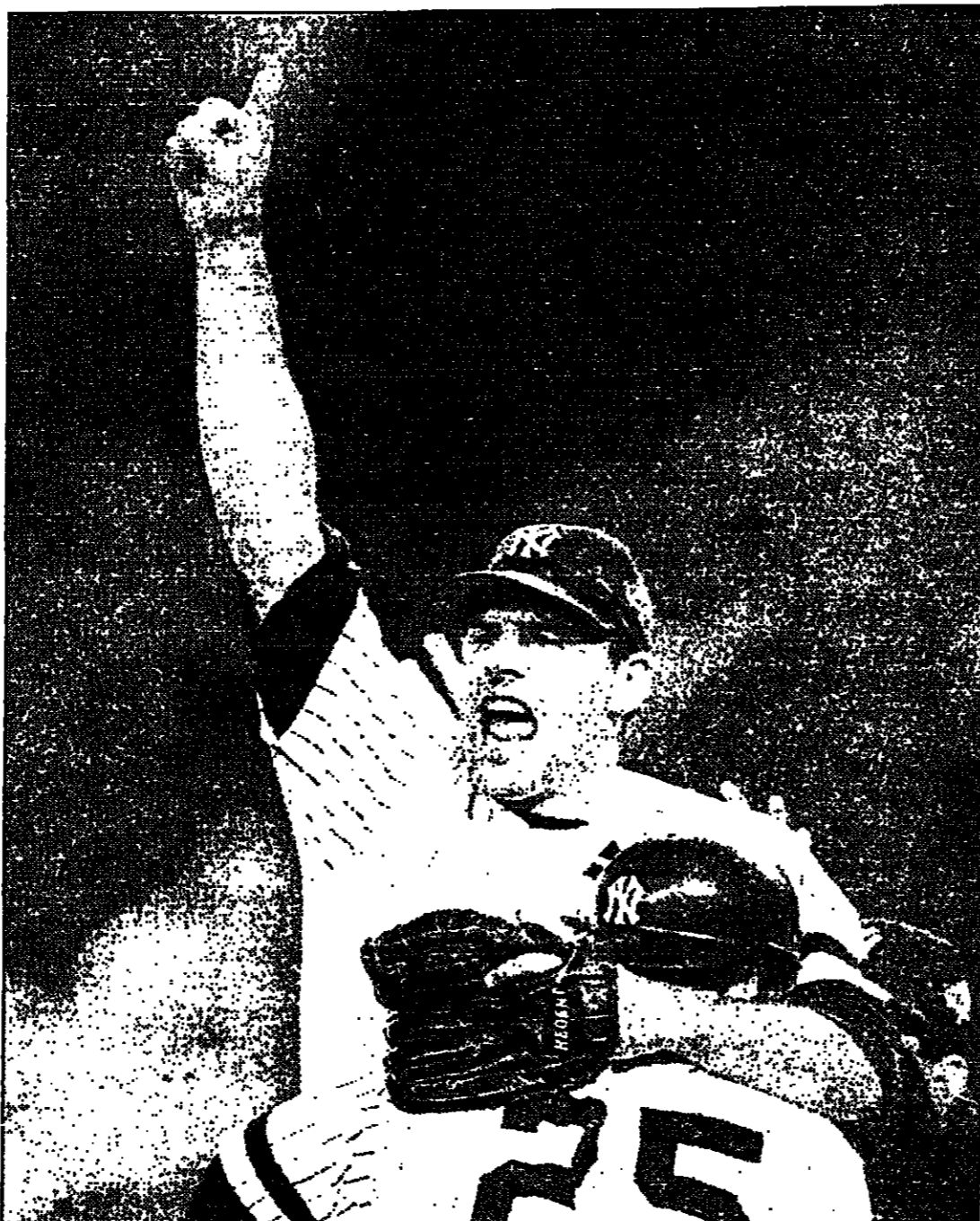
Canucks belt Blues, 8-0

ST LOUIS — Alexander Mogilny and Pavel Bure, reunited for just the second time this season, combined for five goals and Corey Hirsch stopped 42 shots for his second shutout as the Vancouver Canucks belted the Blues 8-0.

Mogilny recorded his first hat trick of the season and Bure snapped out of a scoring slump with two goals and three assists, helping Vancouver (15-14-1) break a three-game skid. "It's all a matter of timing. Some days they go in and some days they don't," Mogilny said. "We got a lot of open ice, so we don't want to get carried away with this."

EASTERN CONFERENCE tables for Atlantic, Northeast, and Western divisions with columns for W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS table with columns for G, PG, A, Pts, PIM and lists of players.



WORLD CLASS — World Series MVP John Wetteland has reportedly closed a deal with the Texas Rangers.

Report: Wetteland joins Rangers

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — John Wetteland, the relief pitcher whose MVP performance helped the New York Yankees win the World Series, is headed for Texas. A source close to the negotiations told The Associated Press that the free agent pitcher is close to signing a deal with the Texas Rangers.

Wetteland, who made \$4 million last season, turned down a \$4.6 million player option after the Yankees beat Atlanta for the championship. Wetteland became the first pitcher ever to record four saves in a World Series. Without Wetteland, the Yankees would move star setup man Mariano Rivera into the closer's role.

Bogus Israeli weightlifter gets off light

LOCAL SCENE HEATHER CHAIT

WEIGHTLIFTING: The sentence handed down to weightlifter Václav Ivanovsky, whose fictitious marriage allowed him a ticket to the Olympics, was relatively light: a year's prison sentence suspended and deportation from Israel after he testifies in the trial of his coach, Moshe Brenna.

European Nations Championships, failed badly on two successive days. The team of Isak Abramov, Erez Sela, Yaniv Sharon, Itai Ben-Ari and Shimon Rabinovich had nothing against Russia's superiority and were beaten 4-0 at both meetings in Lod.

OLYMPIC CONFERENCE: The 'Process of Training and Competition in view of the Atlanta Olympic Games' will be the subject of the post-Olympic symposium to be held at the Wingate Institute under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee.

TENNIS: In preparing for the Australian Open which starts January 13 in Melbourne, Eyal Erlich left this week for a training camp in Miami with coach Dedi Ya'acov.

TAEKWANDO: A record number of 525 taekwondo enthusiasts from 46 clubs, including 100 girls, collected at Kibbutz Tzor 'a for the annual championships last week.

FOOD FOR SPORT: It may be just what Israel's athletes have been lacking — that extra burst of energy. Developed by the Wingate Institute and Dr. Green, and manufactured by Solo, 'Spower' is a range of all-natural products researched by doctors and nutritionists for overall enhanced performance.

TABLE TENNIS: The national men's table tennis team, in a bid to advance to Level A of the

The range is divided into three with one group of capsules for heightened energy before exercise, the second enriched with calcium and iron for general improved health and the third to be taken during and after exertion.

Wimbledon's Jones fined for not-so-funny humor piece

LONDON (Reuters) — Wimbledon's Vinnie Jones was fined a week's pay by his Wimbledon club yesterday for writing a mocking newspaper article that offended his teammates.

The rebellious Wales international has also apologized individually to every squad member in the Premier League club and agreed to donate his £2,000 fee from the paper to the players' pool.

SPORTS BRIEFS: Eriksson named next Blackburn coach, Weah banned for six games, Flyers acquire Coffey from Whalers.

Kansas, Wake Forest, Kentucky stay 1-2-3; Maryland debuts at 25

NEW YORK (AP) — Kansas, Wake Forest and Kentucky held the top three spots in the college basketball poll yesterday, while Maryland jumped into the rankings for the first time this season at No. 25.

Ohio, Louisville, Arkansas and Alabama. The last five spots went to Fresno State, Stanford, Texas Tech, UCLA and the newcomer, Maryland.

The week's biggest jumps were the four-place improvements by No. 18 Louisville and No. 20 Alabama. Louisville (6-0) beat Dayton and Purdue last week,

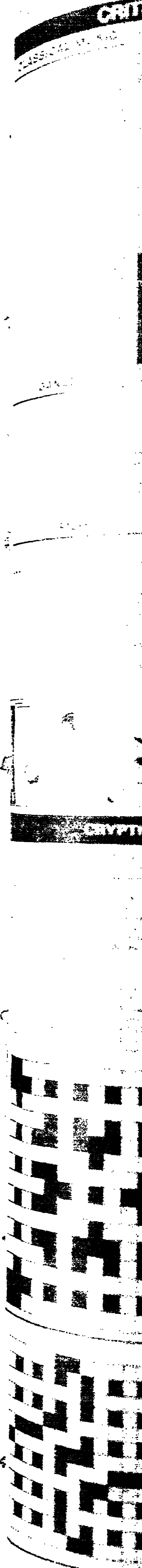
Race chief to face trial over Senna death

ROME (Reuters) — Formula One team chief Frank Williams and five other officials will go on trial in Italy next February charged with manslaughter over the death of driver Ayrton Senna, Williams' Italian lawyer said yesterday.

Lawyer Roberto Causo said the trial was scheduled to open on February 20 before in Imola, where Senna, a Brazilian, was killed in a crash during the San Marino Grand Prix on May 1, 1994.

CLASSIFIEDS: RATES, DWELLINGS, HOLIDAY RENTALS, RENTALS, SALES, SITUATIONS VACANT, HOUSEHOLD HELP.

DON'T BE LEFT OUT! If you don't have e-mail or even a computer you can still advertise! INTERNET POST CLASSIFIEDS. Reach all of Israel and the world for just NIS 39.



Amit blasts Kahalani for visiting synagogue

OUTGOING Jerusalem police chief Cdr. Arye Amit yesterday accused Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani of undermining and insulting his men by visiting the capital's Or Hatzafon synagogue in August, from which rocks and dirty diapers were thrown at them.

Amit was speaking at a study day on "The Policeman's Image," attended by Kahalani, at a Border Police base in the capital.

Amit said the insult to the image and honor of policemen undermines their self-confidence and seriously damages the police. Giving an example, Amit explained: "A minister, who for me is the king, innocently enters the center where dirty diapers and rocks are thrown at police who serve every Shabbat on Rehov Bar-Ilan. This undermines their

confidence."

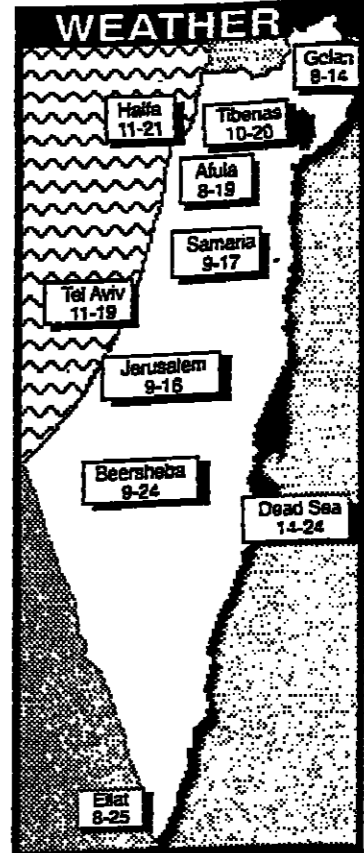
Amit was referring to the synagogue that police think was the "center of disturbances" during the demonstrations in recent months.

"Another thing that hurts us is the leadership war, which leaked outside the force in an ugly way," Amit said, hinting at comments made by Deputy Inspector-General Gabi Last. "A commander saying that we don't use clubs in my district, when there is no reason to do so, is like my going to the television and saying that my district is much better than the central district because no one drowns in it."

When Amit finished speaking, Last said: "If you're done acting like a child, we offer you our hand." Last stuck out his hand, but Amit refused to shake it. (Itim)



Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan stands outside Haifa Magistrate's Court, where his trial on charges of violating privacy and illegal use of military documents opened yesterday. Eitan, former energy minister Gonen Segev, and two Tsomet activists are accused of using information illegally obtained from an IDF computer in internal party battles. The court gave the defense an additional month to prepare its case. (Herzl Shapira/Ma'ariv)



AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	WIND	SEA	WEATHER
Amsterdam	03	37	13	50	cloudy
Berlin	05	35	12	50	partly cloudy
Buenos Aires	22	32	11	10	rain
Chicago	11	29	22	33	cloudy
Cairo	09	27	02	08	partly cloudy
Copenhagen	05	21	02	08	clear
Frankfurt	01	34	02	08	cloudy
Helsinki	01	34	02	08	cloudy
Hong Kong	19	28	23	22	clear
Jakarta	24	32	10	10	clear
London	08	46	09	48	cloudy
Los Angeles	16	50	26	79	clear
Madrid	06	41	16	61	clear
Moscow	01	34	02	08	clear
New York	06	42	07	45	cloudy
Paris	06	42	07	45	cloudy
Rome	05	41	15	59	partly cloudy
Stockholm	10	12	11	16	clear
Sydney	15	20	10	16	clear
Tokyo	07	45	15	59	clear
Toronto	01	34	02	08	clear
Warsaw	02	35	02	08	cloudy
Zurich	06	42	07	45	cloudy

Chief vet accuses anti-vivisectionists of 'lying' about him

JUDY SIEGEL

THE director of the Agriculture Ministry's veterinary services accused the Israel Anti-Vivisection Society yesterday of "lying" in claiming that he had turned down free oral rabies vaccine from Germany meant as bait for wild animals.

Prof. Arnon Shimshony said that his office, in collaboration with Tel Aviv University and Nature Reserves Authority experts, tried the vaccine-laced bait three years ago, but it was not effective because it broke down in the heat.

On Sunday, after the death from rabies of soldier Rafi Tal following a rat bite in his tent, the society charged that Shimshony "prefers to kill off tens of thousands of stray dogs and cats out of fear that they were infected by foxes."

Tal was not vaccinated by Acre district health office doctors because they claimed there had never been a documented case of a rat transmitting the rabies virus.

Since finding the German oral vaccine ineffective, Shimshony said, the veterinary service has tried a French vaccine, but it worked only on foxes, not jackals, which are the main vector for spreading rabies in the region.

He added that even if an effective oral vaccine were to work on all types of animals, eradicating rabies in the animal population could still not be accomplished without "humane killing." He explained that "nature uses rabies to reduce animal populations that are overly crowded in a certain area. If oral vaccine protects them from contracting rabies, there will be an unexpected number of animals and not enough bait to vaccinate all of them. Thus rabies will reappear."

Shimshony said that 10,000 animal bites or scratches are reported each year, and anywhere from 1,200 to 2,000 people are vaccinated against rabies.

Na'amat petitions High Court over lenient rules for obtaining gun licenses

EVELYN GORDON

NA'AMAT petitioned the High Court of Justice yesterday against new rules which make it easier to get a gun license, charging that these rules will lead to increased domestic violence and more spousal murders.

The new criteria were approved by the Interior Ministry at the end of October. They lower the minimum age for owning a gun from 21 to 20, and expand the list of IDF and ex-IDF personnel who are automatically eligible for a license.

The petition based itself on a report prepared in June by a parliamentary committee of investigation into spousal murders. According to the committee's findings, about a third of all spousal murders are committed with guns.

Even when spousal violence

does not result in murder, however, the committee found that the presence of firearms significantly increases the fear to which battered wives are subjected.

According to the committee, there are some 150,000 battered women in Israel, whose families include some 350,000 children.

The petition charged that the more lenient criteria would contribute to the "sowing of terror" and violence in the families of wife-beaters, as well as causing an increase in the number of spousal murders, since they include no mechanism for weeding out wife-beaters. As such, the new criteria are so unreasonable as to be illegal, the petition argued.

The High Court has already issued an interim injunction against the new criteria, in response to a different petition.

Expert: Risk of Syrian attack drops for now

DAVID RUDGE

THE risk of Syria launching a limited military action against Israel in the North appears to have dissipated for the time being, but has certainly not disappeared, according to Middle East expert Prof. Gabriel Ben-Dor.

"I think the Syrians are playing a sophisticated game and are waiting for a more opportune moment," said Ben-Dor, professor of political science and Middle East politics at Haifa University.

"They escalated the situation at one point, just before the US presidential elections, when they felt Israel was vulnerable, but then eased off."

"They estimate that the political moment is not right now, first because the attention of the world is focused on the Palestinian-Israeli talks and particularly the stalemate on Hebron.

"Before that is resolved, there is no real chance, in the Syrian view, of any international pressure being exerted on Israel on yet another issue."

"They are also waiting for the

US administration to get organized, efficiently enough to be in a position to exert pressure if required or so desired."

Ben-Dor is participating along with other leading experts from Israel and abroad in a two-day international conference on Syria — including internal, social, economic and political issues — which opens today at Haifa University.

"I estimate that if the Hebron issue is resolved by a signed agreement soon, then the Syrians might try to heat up the situation in the North again, once the US administration is entrenched and has formulated its foreign policy," he said.

Ben-Dor said that such an escalation was likely to occur next month or early February, if the deadlock in the peace talks on the Syrian-Israeli track continues.

"It would be likely to take the form of threats and the movement of armed forces or they might even try a limited form of military action on the Golan. This is still very much in the cards if the stalemate continues," he said.

Winning cards

THE winning cards in yesterday's daily Chance draw were the jack of spades, eight of hearts, seven of diamonds and eight of clubs.



Corp. Assaf Ben-Or

Survey finds that 22% of youth would not serve in IDF if it weren't required

TWENTY-TWO percent of 16-18 year olds questioned in a recent survey said that they would not serve in the IDF if there was not a mandatory draft, announced Moddy Kidon, head of the Gitanu company which conducted the survey.

The survey of 300 teens also found that 71% thought their parents were more motivated than they are; 31% do not believe a mandatory draft is justified in light of the state's current situation; 40% believe the IDF stunts their personal development; and 45%

place their own personal fulfillment before national ideals.

The survey results were announced yesterday in a discussion on how the IDF can improve its image among youth and reserve soldiers during the Media '97 conference in Tel Aviv.

OC Manpower Maj.-Gen. Gideon Sheffer, who also spoke at the session, said that it is difficult to say whether the survey results are positive, as there are no similar surveys to compare with them. (Itim)

Soldier dies of wounds received in Beit Lid bombing

CORP. Assaf Ben-Or, 20, from Kiryat Bialik, died yesterday of wounds he received in the Beit Lid suicide bombing nearly two years ago. He is to be buried today at the military section of the Tzur Shalom cemetery in Kiryat Bialik.

Ben-Or was wounded on January 22, 1995, when two Hamas suicide bombers blew themselves up at a soldier's hitchhiking post and kiosk at the Beit Lid junction. Nineteen were killed in that explosion and 64 wounded.

Red Sea International Music Festival - Eilat - Aqaba

Maestro Valery Gergiev

The Orchestra and Choir of "Kirov" Opera House - St. Petersburg

"The fire of Toscanini. The finesse of Abbado, the flamboyance of Celibidache... Gergiev is a powerful generator of music"

Hanoch Ron, "Yedioth Aharonot" 14.1.96

15% OFF For American Express Card holders

Give a Special Gift for the Holidays

Share The Jerusalem Post with a friend, relative or colleague

Give a gift of The Jerusalem Post International Edition, the paper that will keep a dear friend or loved one informed about Israel and The Middle East. The unmatched coverage includes news and analysis of all important events and changes.

The Jerusalem Post International Edition keeps you up with current affairs and special features every week. Written and edited in Israel, it is the direct line to the homeland and offers the convenience of air-mail delivery. No other international publication can offer that. 52 weeks a year!

As the holidays grow near, why not take the perfect opportunity to give the perfect gift? Subscribe now!

Order one full year - 52 weekly issues - for just NIS:299.00*, payable in three equal installments of NIS 100 each.

* For orders outside the USA and Europe please add an additional NIS 30 for air-mail costs.

Yes! Please start a one year (52 weeks) subscription to The Jerusalem Post International Edition for NIS 299 (payable in 3 equal installments of NIS 100 each).

Send to:

Name _____

Address/Apt. _____

City/State/Zip _____

Country _____

From:

Name _____

Address/Apt. _____

City/Zip _____

Tel. _____

Checks are enclosed, payable to The Jerusalem Post

Please charge my:

Isracard Visa

American Express Diners Exp.

Card no. _____

Signature _____

Send orders to: The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

For fast service: Call: 02-531-5649

Fax: 02-538-9017

e-mail: subs@jpost.co.il

THE JERUSALEM POST International Edition

Thursday 9.1.97 at 20:30 Aqaba, Jordan: Opening Festive Concert, Under the Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan, Shiraz Shalqev Oded Zahavi

Friday 10.1.97 at 21:00 Eilat Festive Concert, Night on a Bald Mountain Rimski-Korsakov, Scheherazade Prokofiev-Karavayev, Caucasian Sketches Berlioz, Romeo and Juliet - Dramatic Symphony, Manya Tarassova, mezzo-soprano Teroni, to be announced Sergei Mikhalkin, bass

Saturday 11.1.97 at 21:00 Eilat, Verdi - "Requiem" Stevan Sestak, soprano Manya Tarassova, mezzo-soprano Gagan Grigorian, tenor Sergei Aleksandrin, bass

More Concerts at 11:00 A-Cappella - "Kirov" Opera Choir, at 16:00 Concert of Musicale

Sunday 12.1.97, 16:00 Eilat: A Family Concert, Burdan, Pokrovskan Dances from "Prince Igor" Prokofiev "Peter and the Wolf"

For week-end package deals (flight, hotel, tickets) please call: AKINS, Tel: Tel: 03-5103251/5103251/5103251/5103251/5103251 Fax: 03-5160065

For tickets only please call: Bocooc, 93 Dizengoff, tel. 02-5276677, with credit cards and group orders. Hasharon-Bocooc, tel. 02-5276699, fax. 02-5221747.

Hasharon, Ramat Hasharon, tel. 03-9400551-2, Le'an, tel. 03-5270545, Endrina, tel. 02-5277977, Cassel, tel. 03-6044725, Jerusalem, Eilat, tel. 02-6256869, Eilat, tel. 02-6248896, Eilat, Garber, 04-8384777, Eilat, Tourist Information Center, corner of Derech El'azarav and Yotam, 07-4372111

There is only one American Express.